

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A separator for a fuel cell, comprising:

a current collector unit having an irregular shape in its cross-section in which grooved gas passages and/or cooling medium passages and protruding portions contacting a membrane electrode assembly are alternately formed continuously; and

a circumferential portion formed on the periphery of the current collector unit, the current collector unit and the circumferential portion being formed by press forming a sheet of metal plate,

wherein a rib is formed on the circumferential portion.

2. (original): A separator for fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein the rib is formed along the entire circumference of the circumferential portion in an endless shape.

3. (currently amended): A fuel cell comprising:

a membrane electrode assembly formed by interpolating an electrolyte membrane between a pair of electrodes; and
separators layered on both sides of the membrane electrode assembly to form a gas passage between it and the each electrode of the pair of electrodes,

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wherein a separator recited in claim 1 is used as the separator.